



# Thoreau Society Bulletin

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## Three Newly Discovered Contemporary Reviews of *Walden*

*Bradley P. Dean and  
Richard E. Winslow III*

A dozen years ago Bradley P. Dean and Gary Scharnhorst published an "inventory of all reviews, excerpts, and other notices of *Walden*" appearing in print before Thoreau's death, an inventory that listed "a total of ninety-three items, fifty-six of them new to Thoreau scholarship" at that time.<sup>1</sup> Sixty-six of those ninety-three items were reviews of the book, and of those Dean and Scharnhorst characterized forty-six—69.7 percent—as "strongly favorable."<sup>2</sup> Prior to this assessment many modern-day critics had assumed that Thoreau's second book did not fare particularly well in the press, but it is now clear that *Walden* was reviewed more widely and more favorably than previously suspected.

In the last few months, Richard E. Winslow III has discovered in New England libraries three more previously unlocated reviews of *Walden*, bringing the total number of reviews now known to sixty-nine—and increasing the percentage of "strongly favorable" reviews to forty-nine or 71.0 percent.

We reprint the three newly discovered reviews below. The first appeared in the *Norfolk County Journal* just three days after the book's publication and, though mixed, was predominantly favorable, as was the second of the three reviews, which appeared ten days later still in the *Newport Daily News*. The third of the reviews reprinted here, however, was probably the single most favorable contemporary review Thoreau's book ever received. The reviewer (probably the newspaper's editor, Cyrus Barton, himself a well-regarded local writer) could reasonably be called the first member of the public to recognize *Walden* as a classic.

Roxbury, Massachusetts, *Norfolk County Journal*, 12 August 1854, p. 2, col. 6.

WALDEN; OR LIFE IN THE WOODS. By Henry D. Thoreau. Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

Mr. Thoreau is an eccentric genius as well as an original thinker and good writer. His eccentricity led him to build a hut upon the shore of Walden Pond, in Concord, in which he lived alone for two years, laboring in his garden patch to raise food for the support of life, and all that he might experience the pleasures of

solitude and a perfectly independent life [*sic*]. But Mr. Thoreau is a man of education, of intellect, of taste,—though he did not show much of the latter in his odd sort of life, according to the general estimation of the world,—and he did not live alone in the woods like a savage. He mused and studied—mused somewhat on the works of nature, somewhat more on mankind, and not in the most loving and gentle spirit, and he studied his own erratic mind. The latter occupation might have been more profitable, perhaps, had he observed it from a different point of view. The book which he now gives to the world after coming out from his self imposed exile, is a sort of history of his hermitage, an account of his solitary mode of living, a description of the external things which occupied his attention, colored throughout with a sort of philosophy which is little else than the peculiarities of Mr. Thoreau's mind. The narrative and descriptions are certainly very interesting and attractive, full of life and nature, and the book is in this respect quite a charming one. In other respects it may find fewer admirers, but altogether, from its origin and character, it may be set down as a remarkable book, which will command the attention of the tasteful reader and of the thoughtful student. It is hardly necessary to say that it is published in the neat style which characterizes all the volumes issued by these publishers.



Newport, Rhode Island, *Daily News*, 22 August 1854, p. 2, col. 2.

WALDEN; OR LIFE IN THE WOODS. By Henry D. Thoreau. Boston: Ticknor & Fields, 1854.

This is a singular book, and is the production of a peculiar mind. The author selected a spot on the banks of a Lake from which the book takes its name, situated about a mile from the village of Concord, Massachusetts, and there, in the woods, he erected a small house, where he resided alone for more than two years, subsisting upon plain food, working a portion of the days, and reading, writing and meditating the balance of the time. He appears to have been somewhat impressed with a kind of Utopian

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idea, and endeavored to test his theory on a small scale. He is a man of a good deal of genius, and the book is exceedingly well written. In many instances his reasoning is sound, and it would be better for the world if some of his notions could be carried into general practice.—Again we say the book is a very peculiar one; and well worth reading. It is issued in good style.

For sale by W. H. Peek and C. E. Hammett, Jr.



Concord, New Hampshire, *State Capital Reporter*, 2 September 1854, p. 2, col. 5.

“WALDEN: OR, LIFE IN THE WOODS.” This work, written by HENRY D. THOREAU, and published by MESSRS. TICKNOR & FIELDS, of Boston, a few weeks since, is one of sterling literary merit. It has the merit of *originality*. The author does his own thinking, and uses his own style of expression, which is appropriate, vigorous and beautiful. “Walden” has in it the essential elements of a grand Poem of life spent in the solitude of forests and beside beautiful waters. It is a poem in all except the rythmical [*sic*] arrangement of its words. The author writes in the fullness of the inspiration of genius, and has stored every page of his work with *thoughts*, as well as *words*. A pond of water, a bean-field, and a fight between two species of ants in a door-yard, would not be reckoned by the heedless world as matters of much importance, but the thinking, observing and poetic mind of the author of “Walden,” sees much in them, and has found in them themes for pages of most fascinating description. We have wondered at the acuteness of observation manifested by the writer, who seemed to see and hear *everything* in the world of nature around him, and which faculty seems equalled by his power of expressing, with intelligibility, his ideas thus obtained by observation. The scene of this work is in the woods of Concord, Mass., upon the shores of Walden Pond, where, for two years and upwards, the author dwelt in a house built by his own hands, supporting himself by his own labor, and who chose this retiracy [*sic*] that he might the better commune with Nature in her own solitary retreats. This work will bear reading—indeed, we doubt, if many will be able by a single perusal to gain a full conception of its beauties. It can be found at any of the bookstores here, we presume.

#### Notes

1. Bradley P. Dean and Gary Scharnhorst, “The Contemporary Reception of *Walden*,” in *Studies in the American Renaissance*, 1990, Joel Myerson, ed. (Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 1990), p. 293.

2. Dean and Scharnhorst, p. 293.

## Marcia E. Moss: A Professional Tribute

Leslie Perrin Wilson

Marcia E. Moss, retired Curator of the Concord Free Public Library (CFPL) Special Collections and Archivist of the Thoreau Society during the period when the Society’s collections were stored in the CFPL, died in Concord on 13 April 2002 at the age of eighty-six. The facts of Marcia’s life have appeared in her *Concord Journal* obituary (25

April 2002). Other people can comment more knowledgeably than I on the importance to Marcia of her family, friends, garden, and photography. What follow here are my impressions of the curatorial Marcia, formed as I worked side-by-side with her between 1980 and 1983, and again between 1991 and 1996.

A staff member at the CFPL for over thirty-five years, Marcia began in 1960 in the Fowler Branch, progressing to Circulation Assistant in the main library, eventually to Reference Librarian, and ultimately—in 1977, when Special Collections was established as a separate department—to Curator. She held this final position until her retirement in 1996 and found tremendous satisfaction in carrying out its varied duties. When patrons commented on how interesting her work must be, she often replied, “It’s the best job in the world.” She felt fortunate to work with the rich holdings of the CFPL and to play a role in the research endeavors of the many people—both local and from beyond Concord—who required her advice and assistance. Moreover, she conveyed to those who passed through the Special Collections her own enthusiasm and reverence for the materials under her care.

Marcia possessed an intellectual curiosity that far surpassed the necessity of responding to the specific inquiries that came her way. She was so engaged in Concord history and in the process of pursuing information about it that she pored through scrapbooks, collections of clippings, and documents long after the particular research question that had been asked had also been answered. Although largely self-taught in historical and archival methodology (she had entered the archival profession before specific degree work was a *sine qua non* for a career in it), she understood intuitively what most archival degree programs have yet adequately to acknowledge—that an archivist’s work, like a scholar’s, is essentially about content rather than technique. Because of her mastery of the raw material, she was held in respect by the historical community in Concord and beyond.

As a number of now distinguished academics can testify, Marcia formed particularly warm relationships with young, green



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scholars whose chosen specialties brought them to Concord. Individuals all over the country remain indebted to her for opening up the Special Collections to them and for actively bringing crucial information and materials to their attention. Many remember and appreciate her as much for her motherly personal interest in their romances, families, and job situations as for her professional assistance. Marcia obviously thrived on the human interaction that went along with her job. Indeed, after the library's archival and manuscript holdings were relocated in the CFPL basement following the renovation and expansion of the late 1980s and 1990, she had great difficulty leaving behind the upstairs desk that had allowed her to see and greet visitors easily.

Marcia took all of the responsibilities of her position seriously. She did not hesitate to set straight those researchers disinclined to toe the archival line (use of pencil only, no photocopy without permission, and the like) and to maintain the quiet and decorum appropriate to the reading room. She made a point of learning about preservation techniques and participated in several grant-funded preservation projects initiated by the library and by the town's Records and Archives Committee. Although she did not have much latitude to make purchases for the Special Collections, she did what she could to encourage the donation of materials. She also spoke up to ensure that important documents beyond library jurisdiction were not discarded or mishandled. And when situations arose in which it was necessary for her to take a stand in order to protect the Special Collections, she presented her best case firmly and clearly to the Library Director, Town Library Committee, and/or CFPL Corporation. For cataloging, Marcia relied on the expertise of the library's Technical Services staff and on Joyce Woodman, her loyal and capable assistant.

Every job evolves to reflect the strengths and interests of the individual who holds it. Since I took over as Curator from Marcia Moss in 1996, I have followed my own sense of how best to make the Special Collections accessible and to preserve, develop, and showcase them. Nevertheless, I am always aware of the fact that had I not inherited my position from someone who loved the CFPL and gave her best to it, it would have taken me a very long time to build the tremendous level of administrative and community support that I have enjoyed. It is sad that Marcia is gone. But she has left her enduring imprint on an important Concord institution. Hers was a professional life well—and deliberately—lived.

## Thoreau Puzzlers

Lewis Hyde

[Editor's Note: Professor Hyde delivered a presentation based on his annotation work and these "puzzlers" at the recent Annual Gathering. He can be contacted at Hyde@Kenyon.edu.]

When I finished the annotations for *The Essays of Henry D. Thoreau* I was left with a list of citations, phrases, and remarks whose sense or source I could not figure out. I reproduce the list below, in hopes that members of the Thoreau Society might shed some light on them.

This list is incomplete in at least two ways. First of all, there are surely errors in the annotations that I have done but precisely because they are errors I cannot see them! If you see one, please

tell me.

Second, there are surely things in need of annotation that I did not even notice. If something in this line occurs to you, please let me know.

If you solve one of these puzzles, the more documentation you can provide, the better. Photocopies of original sources are the best.

I here arrange my remaining puzzlers in the order of the essays' composition, with page citations to my edition.

### "Natural History of Massachusetts"

page 3: "I read in Audubon with a thrill of delight ... of the **fence-rail**, and the cotton-tree, and the migrations of the rice-bird...." The context implies that the fence-rail is a bird (there are many kinds of "rail"), but Audubon nowhere lists one with that name. I ended up assuming Thoreau just means the rail of a fence, though it seems odd to speak of "the thrill of delight" in reading about a fence rail.

page 10n: A note on the veery says that the boys in Cambridge call this bird "**yorrick**," from the sound of its querulous and chiding note." Is this "yorrick" simply onomatopoeia, or is there a link to Yorick, the jester whose skull appears in the grave-diggers' scene in *Hamlet* V.i.? If the latter, why?

### "A Winter Walk"

page 29: "They who have resided in Greenland tell us that when it freezes, **the sea smokes like burning turf-land**, and a fog or mist arises, called frost smoke...." What is Thoreau's source for this citation? J. A. Christie's *Thoreau as World Traveler* mentions this passage on page 206 and in the notes, but he does not clarify the source.

page 34: "This woodland lake ... has not been idle ... but, like **Abu Musa**, teaches that 'sitting still at home is the heavenly way; the going out is the way of the world.'" What is Thoreau's source for this citation from Abu Musa?

page 41: "**the mansion of the northern bear**": what is Thoreau's source for this phrase? The context implies that it is from James Thomson's "Winter," but that is not the case.

### "Paradise (To Be) Regained"

page 49: "as a surveyor makes known the existence of a **water-power** on any stream": how exactly does a surveyor do that? Can anyone find surveyor's instructions for determining "a water-power"? I checked one early nineteenth-century textbook, John Gummere's *A Treatise on Surveying*, but could find nothing on how to survey a water-power.

### "Ktaadn"

page 69: Thoreau and the Penobscot guide Louis Neptune are discussing the mountain and its dangers. Neptune says that to pacify Pomola "we must plant one bottle of rum on the top." Then Thoreau says: "He had been up [the mountain] two or three times: **he had planted letter**—English, German, French, &c." What does this mean?

page 71: A store in Maine has "a preponderance of children's toys," "as if a child, born into the Maine woods ... could not do without such a **sugar-man**, or **skipping-jack**, as the young Rothschild has." Is there a historian of toys who can tell us what these are? I don't even know if this is two toys, or one toy with two names.

page 110: Thoreau takes his description of the lake-filled land

looking like a “mirror broken into a thousand fragments” from J. K. **Laski’s report** of a botanical expedition to Katahdin. We know this because in a letter dated 24 October 1847 Thoreau wrote to thank his sister Sophia for clipping the account from the Bangor *Daily Whig and Courier*. Somebody should find the original account. When exactly was Laski’s report published?

#### “Civil Disobedience”

page 132: Why does Thoreau use the figure “**nine shillings**” to illustrate his case? The tax that Thoreau refused to pay was \$1.50.

#### “Walking”

page 153: “Even some sects of philosophers have felt the necessity of importing the woods to themselves, since they did not go to the woods. **‘They planted groves and walks of Platanes,’** where they took *subdiales ambulationes* in porticos open to the air.” What is Thoreau’s source for the quotation? Perhaps Pliny, *Natural History* 12, which discusses the plane tree—though I cannot find this phrase there. Pliny’s *Natural History* 14.11.5 has the phrase *subdiales inambulationes*, but that is not quite the phrase Thoreau uses, and appears to be unrelated.

John Claudius Loudon writes about the plane tree in *Arboretum et Fruiticetum Britannicum* (IV: 2037ff), but again that doesn’t seem to be Thoreau’s source.

page 161: I had thought that **the panorama** of the Mississippi that Thoreau saw was the one painted by John Banvard, but Richard Schneider argues that it is the one by **Sam Stockwell**. I ended up including both names. What are Sam Stockwell’s dates?

page 166: Thoreau suggests an etymological link between “**mallard**” and wildness. My note reads: “the OED reports the conjecture that the English ‘mallard’ derives from the Old High German *Madelhart*, which in turn may have been the name for the wild duck in a Germanic beast-epic, now lost.” The problem is that the OED’s source for this connection dates from about 1896. Thus, Thoreau’s source for the etymological link is not known, nor therefore do we know what exact link he thinks there is. What is it and what is his source?

page 168: on “**the partridge loves peas**,” my note indicates that this is “a Wolof proverb.” That connection was found on a now-defunct web site. Is this right, and if so, what was Thoreau’s source?

page 171: “Many a poor sore-eyed student ... would grow faster, both intellectually and physically, if, instead of sitting up so very late, he honestly slumbered a **fool’s allowance**.” What is a “fool’s allowance”?

page 172: **Chaldean Oracles**: what is Thoreau’s source for the Greek?

#### “Autumnal Tints”

page 230: “This is the beautiful way in which Nature gets her muck, while I chaffer with this man and that, who talks to me about **sulphur** and the cost of carting.”

Why might farmers haggle over sulphur? My note says: “Farmers in Thoreau’s day carted muck from swamps and low meadows to improve their upland soils. Perhaps a smell of sulphur was a sign of good muck. Or perhaps this is a reference to the fact that farmers spread gypsum, calcium

sulphate, as a fertilizer, gypsum being widely used as ballast in ships.” This was suggested to me by the ecologist Brian Donahue, but neither of us is sure.

page 232: Thoreau tells a story about “the fathers of the town” who set out maple **bean poles** that later grew into sugar maple trees. Is there any source for this tale?

#### “Succession of Forest Trees”

page 255: “It is stated by one botanical writer that ‘**acorns that have lain for centuries**, on being ploughed up, have soon vegetated.’” Who is Thoreau citing?

#### “A Plea for Captain John Brown”

page 262: Thoreau writes of Brown, “though he was tempted by the offer of **some petty office in the army**, when he was eighteen, he not only declined that, but he also refused to train when warned, and was fined for it.” Is this true? If so, or if not, how do we know?

page 265: John Brown “said ... that the reason why such greatly superior numbers quailed before him, was, as **one of his prisoners** confessed, because they *lacked a cause*....” Who is the “prisoner,” and what is Thoreau’s source?

#### “The Last Days of John Brown”

page 287: Thoreau quotes Brown saying, “***It will pay***.” What is Thoreau’s source?

#### “Wild Apples”

page 293: “‘**The fruit of the crab** in the forests of France’ is said to be ‘a great resource for the wild boar.’” What is Thoreau’s source?

page 294: What is the source of the couplet: “**At Michalemas time**, or a little before, / Half an apple goes to the core”?

page 295: “As an old English manuscript says, ‘**The mo appelen the tree bereth** the more sche boweth to the folk.’” What is the source?

page 296: What is Thoreau’s source for the chant that begins “‘**Stand fast, root!** bear well, top!...’”?

page 303: “As Palladius says, ‘***Et injussu consternitur ubere mali***....’” Where is this in Palladius? Where did Thoreau find it?

page 303: Thoreau cites Loudon on “the custom of **gripping**.” The context implies that “gripping” is “gleaning,” but can anyone find “gripping” defined as such?

page 306: What is the source of the poem that begins, “**Nor is it every apple I desire**....”?

## Object Lessons

*Gretchen Oberfranc*

[Editor’s Note: This essay is reprinted with permission from the Winter 2002 issue (no. 21) of the Friends of the Princeton University Library *Newsletter*.]

Associated with the thousands of books and manuscripts in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the Princeton University Library are one hundred and fifty or so objects, including a chunk of tea supposedly from the Boston Tea Party, a pair of silver shoe buckles reputedly owned by



Napoleon I (and an indisputable lock of his hair), hand-painted toy soldiers representing all the regiments at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton—and two wooden pencils. What famous person conferred immortality on these mundane items by leaving them on his or her desk? In fact, the pencils not only belonged to Henry David Thoreau. He made them. (Or did he?)

In *The Pencil*, an engaging social, cultural, and engineering history, Henry Petroski recounts the story of John Thoreau & Company. Pencil making, as an industry, did not exist in the United States in 1800. The best pencils were still imported from England and, especially, from France, where a method of combining powdered graphite with clay and water, and then baking rods of this mixture to form a superior lead, had been invented by Nicholas-Jacques Conté in the mid-1790s. John Thoreau, Henry's father, apparently learned the rudiments of pencil making from a failed entrepreneur near Concord. When John's brother-in-law discovered and leased a deposit of graphite far purer than any yet known in the United States, the most important of raw materials was secured.

By 1834, when seventeen-year-old Henry accompanied his father to New York City to sell pencils to stores there, the family business had been operating for about ten years, and Thoreau pencils were widely regarded as among the best produced in America. Their leads, however, still failed to measure up to those imported from England, France, and Germany. The question of why engaged Henry in a course of research and experimentation. The Conté method had not been described outside of France, but Thoreau's reading in the Harvard Library probably led him to try a similar combination of powdered graphite and clay. When the resulting leads proved harder and blacker, but still gritty, Henry invented a new mill to grind the graphite finer.

Thoreau continued to work in the family business on and off, contributing improvements to machinery and the graphite-clay mix. In 1847 he still regarded pencil making as one of his professions: "I am a Schoolmaster—a Private Tutor, a Surveyor—a Gardener, a Farmer—a Painter, I mean a House Painter, a Carpenter, a Mason, a Day-laborer, a Pencil-Maker, a Glass-paper Maker, a Writer, and sometimes a Poetaster" (to Henry Williams Jr., Sept. 30, 1847, *The Correspondence of Henry David Thoreau*, ed. Walter Harding and Carl Bode [New York: New York UP, 1958], p. 186). In 1853 the Thoreau family gave up pencil making for the more lucrative business of supplying refined graphite "Prepared Expressly for Electrotyping."

The pencils in the Library's collection were donated by Francis Estey, Princeton Class of 1940, in December 1943. They were a gift to him from Melvin Howard, self-described "great-grandson of a minute man, Concord, 1775. Pupil of May Alcott, Concord 1874" (quoted in Helen E. Glutsch, "Interesting Reminiscences," *Saturday Review of Literature* 8 [Aug. 29, 1931]: 92). As a child growing up in Concord, Howard had known Thoreau: "He always said there were only two naturalists. He was *the* naturalist and I was the other one. We used to talk about birds and eggs and things we found in the woods" (Glutsch, p. 92).



Curiously, Howard's note to "Friend Estey" says, "I am sending you *one* of the pencils made by H. D. Thoreau before 1859," that is, when John Thoreau died and Henry took over the family graphite business (emphasis added). The two pencils are very different in shape and color. The shorter one, with a sharpened end, is round and painted black or dark green; it is not possible to tell whether its graphite is round or square, although its groove appears to be round. The longer, never-used pencil is hexagonal and unpainted, and its graphite is round. Both pencils were made by gluing two pieces of wood (probably cedar) around a core of graphite. The round one conforms in shape to Thoreau pencils pictured in *A Thoreau Profile*, by Milton Meltzer and Walter Harding (New York: Crowell, 1962). Neither bears any identifying label, although the hexagonal one has a faint accession number incised at one end.

According to David F. Wood, Curator of the Concord Museum, the Thoreau pencils in the museum's collections are "round in section, the graphite square in section." They are readily identifiable because they are marked "J. THOREAU" or "J. THOREAU & SON, CONCORD MASS." "Without the impressed mark," says Wood, "I am not sure how a pencil could be identified as a Thoreau pencil."

The mystery remains. Was one of these pencils—or neither—made in the Thoreau family factory? Readers are invited to contribute any information they may have about Thoreau pencils, Francis Estey, or Melvin Howard.

And here's another mystery: Melvin Howard noted that he was "keeping a piece of the Emerson elm" for Estey. Anyone know where it is?

The author, who is the editor of the *Princeton University Library Chronicle* and the *Friends of the Princeton University Library Newsletter* (and who typeset the three most recent volumes of Thoreau's journal), thanks David Wood, Curator of the Concord Museum, and, especially, Elizabeth Witherell, Editor-in-Chief of the *Writings of Henry D. Thoreau*, for the information they provided.

## Thoreau Society Presentations at 2002 ALA Conference

*Randall Conrad*

On 30–31 May, the Thoreau Society sponsored two panels at the American Literature Association annual conference in Long Beach, California. "Wiring the Oversoul: Teaching the Romantics On-Line" was chaired by the Society's new Executive Secretary, Sandy Petrulionis. The theme of cyber-scholarship was appropriately (dis)embodied by the first panelist, Ann Woodlief (Virginia Commonwealth), who appeared via video playback to present the American Transcendentalists web site that she originated as a collaborative classroom project ([www.transcendentalism.org](http://www.transcendentalism.org)). The site provides annotated online texts (including an extensive *Walden* study text), as well as links to background information and threaded discussions.

Panelist Jarom McDonald next demonstrated the Emily Dickinson Electronic Archives web site originated by Martha Nell Smith at the University of Maryland (<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/dickinson>). According to McDonald, who serves as site manager, this nine-year project was created to dispel the poet's

"isolated genius" stereotype by documenting Dickinson's reliance on manuscript circulation to, and feedback from, her social circle. Originally research-oriented, the Dickinson site has evolved to include a "Classroom Electric," providing syllabi, contemporary responses, and audio recordings for public-school teachers. Among its benefits, McDonald noted, the site brings students who may have no experience with textual studies face-to-face with reproductions of manuscripts and early printings, allowing them to follow a single poem through its successive versions and editions.

Concluding panelist Wyn Kelley (M.I.T.) discussed the use of multimedia tools to enhance a reader's understanding of the representation of race in literature, exemplified in the web site "Pip's Soliloquy" (internally available to university users), which she developed in collaboration with colleagues and contributors. Focusing entirely on enhancing a single chapter of *Moby Dick*, the site provides images, songs, and video clips that bring to life the multicultural working environment of nineteenth-century seamen, enabling students to better gauge Melville's acuity as a social observer.

Discussing technology choices, Kelley observed that one reason her site employs frames for side-by-side annotation of text is that it allows a more fluid reading and seems to suit Melville's digressive style. In contrast, Woodlief prefers mouse-triggered pop-up windows for displaying study notes because this is more interactive. All three panelists concurred that the use of online study tools, far from diminishing the value of experiencing the printed work, had "made better readers" of the students in their programs.

The presenters at the second Thoreau Society panel, "Transcending Tragedy: What Can and Cannot Be Shared," had been asked to consider how (or whether) the Transcendentalists' philosophy can help twenty-first-century citizens cope with a disaster of the magnitude of 11 September 2001. Without condescension to a less global historical era, the panelists focused on responses to death and grief in the lives of Emerson and Thoreau.

Jennifer Gurley (UC Berkeley) illuminated the reasons that Emerson, although harrowed by numerous excruciating losses of loved ones, believed genuine grief is not to be shared even within one's personal circle, let alone the reading public. Following Plato, Emerson believed in an absolute good which orders the universe; conversely, evil was not an absolute but "merely privative." As Gurley noted, "Emerson grieves that 'grief can teach him nothing'—that it is pure waste, pure privation, existing for itself." She further discussed how in Emerson's philosophy, time can disclose authentic suffering, even if language cannot. "Time alone allows us to accept that our real suffering is in fact a way of knowing the world," Gurley concluded. "Time alone consoles us until we can believe in what Emerson called 'the good of evil' as a part of life, from which good will come again, absolutely."

Closely following Gurley's thread—indeed, all three papers seemed to interface seamlessly—David Justin Hodge (Harvard) considered how "the privative" bears upon individual privacy (alone-ness) in the case of Thoreau living at Walden: "Thoreau does not feel the absence of others as a privation (and therefore as something to mourn)," Hodge maintained, because he finds his morning work—the work he should be doing—in his true community, the natural world. In conclusion, Hodge challenged us to

partake of Thoreau's experience today: "If we cannot, we are left, it seems, only with mourning work."

The session's concluding presenter, Randall Conrad, opened with a close reading of a seldom-examined passage in Thoreau's journal entry of 7 January 1853, wherein the philosopher stands face to face with scattered human remains, the fresh result of a powdermill explosion. To most readers—particularly since September eleventh—Thoreau's unsympathetic account of sudden, violent death seems offensive, characteristic of the stereotypically heartless misanthrope.

Presenting an expanded version

of his article in the last Bulletin, Conrad argued that the journal entry is but one face of a grieving process Thoreau had to undergo. At the source of Thoreau's "refusal to mourn," he concluded, lies a Transcendentalist acceptance of death, even accidental death, as an inextricable part of life. Thoreau Society Board member Laura Dassow Walls chaired the "Transcending Tragedy" session.

If the day and the night are such that  
you greet them with joy, and life  
emits a fragrance like flowers and  
sweet-scented herbs, is more elastic,  
more starry, more immortal,—  
that is your success. All nature is  
your congratulation, and you have  
cause momentarily to bless yourself.

"Higher Laws," *Walden*

## Annual Gathering, 2002

On the following three pages we present a few photos taken during the Annual Gathering, as well as the address delivered by Society President Ron Bosco at the Business Meeting and a report of this year's awards and fellowships.

During the past decade or so the Society's Annual Gatherings have become increasingly more complex and, it seems to us, interesting. Whereas throughout the 1980s our one-and-a-half-day Annual Meetings (as we called them then) consisted of three or four events aside from the Saturday Business Meeting and keynote address, members gathering this year could select from among three dozen events taking place over a four-day period. True, there has been some disorder during the decade-long transition, but we sense with this year's Annual Gathering that the Society has settled into a new tradition that will serve its members well. Many individuals have contributed time and resources to effect this much-needed change. The unprecedented success of this year's Annual Gathering, however, can be attributed primarily to two people: Annual Gathering Committee Chair Dave Ganoe, and Membership and Events Coordinator Tammy Beams. Congratulations to them on an extraordinarily successful Annual Gathering.



## President's Address, 13 July 2002

*Ronald A. Bosco*

I would like to open my remarks this morning by expressing my sincerest gratitude to the Thoreau Society's Board of Directors and membership-at-large for electing me to a second term as president of the Thoreau Society. When I started out on this path two years ago, I had thought that I would be a one-term president, but like many of you in the audience today, I am a person who seems to just always have a few things more to initiate or to bring to closure before I am ready to move on to other challenges in my personal or professional life. As I begin this new term, I am cheered by all that we have accomplished as a Society—note my emphasis here: *as a Society*—in the past two years, and I happily confess at the outset that our accomplishments are not the result of any one person's work; they are, rather, the result of the collaborative and community efforts of many individuals from all walks in the Society and, as we enter our seventh decade, the steadfast support of the Thoreau Society's mission by our membership near and far.

I believe that during the past two years the Society has moved forward in a number of important ways:

First, the Board of Directors' extension of greater governance responsibility to the membership through the Committee on Nominations and Elections—the creation of which was the first motion I introduced as a member of the Board—has worked splendidly, and as one sure indication of our success in this area, in June the membership voted overwhelmingly to correct an oversight in the *By-Laws* amendment process that extends back to the founding of the Society.

Second, the Society's development of a substantial endowment for the first time in its history guarantees our financial self-sufficiency and insures our ability to continue our mission to preserve and promote Thoreau's legacy into the future.

Third, our successful negotiation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management to become the Commonwealth's official Friends of Walden Pond organization has positively restored our visibility and our reputation in the Concord and Lincoln communities, afforded us an exciting opportunity to promote Thoreau's legacy before the large constituency of those who visit the Pond annually, and provided us with the most estimable address in all the Thoreauvian world: Walden Pond, Concord, Massachusetts.

Fourth, we have formally implemented the new "advocacy" component of our mission whereby we are now formally acknowledging and promoting Thoreau's own advocacy on behalf of environmental and related social issues.

And fifth, our collaboration with the Walden Woods Project to create the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods has matured wonderfully. Through the Institute, we are collaboratively offering educational and lecture programs; individuals from around the world have begun to use our collections for new and exciting directions in research; and through the Society's initiation of a fellowships program this year, we will assist many more individuals in making use of our collections for a great variety of artistic, educational, and research purposes.

I believe that we have together accomplished much in the name of Henry David Thoreau, but I hasten to add that I do not



Mike Berger (left) speaking with Lewis Hyde in the sanctuary of the First Parish Meetinghouse shortly after the keynote address.

believe that this is a time for us to rest on our recent successes. In my estimation, three important and difficult and ultimately related challenges face us at the moment, and at the risk of appearing to be one of those corporate managers who are being hauled before Congress these days and pleading the "Fifth," I would respectfully suggest to all of you that we must answer these challenges in the next two years:

First, we have come to the point in our evolution as a Society that we must now pause and clarify the ways in which we will promote our mission into the future. I have heard enough from the Board, from many of our members who have been very open in sharing their opinions with me, and from those occasional conversations with myself to know that the Board and the Society have to engage in long-range planning. I am not talking about long-range planning of the monumental sort that seems to be in vogue these days. We do not need a "task force" with a cast of thousands to determine our future, since our mission tells us rather straightforwardly the way we



Ron Bosco (left) speaking with Barksdale Maynard shortly after Lewis Hyde's keynote address in the sanctuary of the First Parish Meetinghouse.



Lewis Hyde (right) preparing to sign a copy of his new annotated edition of Thoreau's major essays for Dave Ganoe (left), and D. B. Johnson (center) signing a copy of his new book, *Henry Builds a Cabin*.

must go, but we do need to decide on the best *means* to achieve the laudable goals of our mission. As a long-time member of the Society said to me recently, "The Thoreau Society cannot be everything to everybody." Intuitively, I knew exactly what this person meant, and so over the next two years I intend to lead us in a discussion of what, indeed, the Thoreau Society will be.

Second, I want to make it very clear to all of you that I am not promoting the "corporatization" of the Thoreau Society, but having said that, I intend for us to solidify the Society's financial base by preserving the substantial funds that have recently been donated to the Society as bequests and other gifts, and I intend too to increase our endowment in order to guarantee that the successes the Society has enjoyed to date will be able to be shared and built upon by future generations of Thoreauvians.

And third, as we engage in discussions about how best to promote our mission into the future and to increase the Society's financial self-sufficiency, I believe we must continue and develop even further our collaborative activities with both the Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Management (DEM) and the Walden Woods Project. Although I have heard it said in various quarters that such collaborations miss the point of our being the *Thoreau* Society, I reject the notion that these collaborations in any way diminish the commitments we have made over the years to preserve and promote Thoreau's legacy. *What binds us together as members of this Society is our mutual devotion to Henry Thoreau's legacy—and that, whole and entire, is exactly what should bind us together; what binds us together with*

our two collaborative partners is the rare opportunity these collaborations provide for us to bring Thoreau's ideas and his values into larger arenas than are available to the Society when it acts alone.

With respect to our service as the Friends of Walden Pond, we need to recognize that as we work to promote DEM's mission—to exercise care and oversight for the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; to provide quality public recreational opportunities that are environmentally sound, affordable, and accessible to all citizens; to develop programs that include public education, environmental conservation, and physical improvements to the Reservation for which no government funds are available; and to balance resource protection and enhancement with public use and enjoyment at Walden Pond—we promote the explicit educational, research, and advocacy components of the Society's mission.

The mutually beneficial relationship between the Society—acting as the Friends of Walden Pond—and the Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Management parallels that between the Society and the Walden Woods Project. As a collaboration between two like-minded but independent enterprises, the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods is poised to emerge over the next few years as the premier site for all forms of research on Thoreau and his relation both to his contemporaries and to us. The Walden Woods Project's devotion to the preservation of "Thoreau's country," and the Thoreau Society's recently reaffirmed mission,

which now also includes advocacy, make our collaboration unique. Through the shared commitment of its collaborative partners to Thoreau's land, his ideas, and his legacy, through its extraordinary physical and technological infrastructure, and through its housing of the Thoreau Society's unparalleled collection of Thoreauviana, the Thoreau Institute is in a position to do for Thoreau studies what a great research center such as the Folger Library has done for Shakespeare studies or the Massachusetts Historical Society Library has done for New England cultural history.

**Y**es, we have accomplished much in recent years—and, yes, too, we now face significant challenges as we work to clarify the ways in which we will promote our mission into the future, to enhance our financial self-sufficiency, and to build upon the collaborations we have so profitably entered with the Department of



Brad Parker addressing the members at the Saturday business meeting.



Leslie Wilson reading from "Huckleberries" on the steps of the First Parish Meetinghouse Saturday afternoon.



Environmental Management and the Walden Woods Project. These are major commitments I am making for myself, for the Board, and for the Society as a whole; but I have every confidence that with your continued support, we will achieve these goals together. I base my enthusiasm and optimism on two unquestionable facts: our remarkable history as a Society, and the example of tireless devotion of many individuals over the years who have given of themselves so freely and so fully to ensure the success of the Thoreau Society. With respect and with profound gratitude I should like to remember five such persons today, each of whom has left us in the past year: Raymond Borst, Anne Root McGrath, Marcia Moss, Mary Sherwood, and W. Stephen Thomas. Each of these persons lived remarkably full, but different lives, and each treasured Thoreau as a source of personal inspiration and intellectual strength. Anne McGrath and Stephen Thomas were past presidents of the Society, and they have been justly praised as natural teachers to persons young and old; Raymond Borst will long be remembered as Thoreau's premier bibliographer, Mary Sherwood as one of Concord's literary and political reporters who understood quite clearly the role of Thoreau and the potential role of the Society in promoting Concord's history, and Marcia Moss as the generous facilitator of research on Thoreau and his Concord circle for the better part of two generations. What a legacy of devotion to Thoreau these five persons leave us.

In closing, I should like to recite yet once again the passage from Thoreau that has inspired me for much of my life, and that certainly has inspired my service on behalf of the Society for the past two years and inspires me as I now embark on another two. Touched by the vivifying warmth of an early spring day in 1853, Thoreau wrote in his *Journal*, "[T]he future is worth expecting. Encouraged, I set out once more to climb the mountain of the earth, for my steps are symbolical steps, and in all my walking I have not reached the top of the earth yet."

## Annual Thoreau Society Awards and Fellowships

After completing his presidential address, Ron Bosco announced the recipients of this year's Thoreau Society Fellowships and other Thoreau Society awards. He reminded the audience that this is the first year of the fellowships program, which promotes studies that pursue the goals of the Thoreau Society as expressed in its mission statement, especially "stimulating interest in and fostering education about [Thoreau's] life, works, and philosophy and his place in his world and ours." The competition for fellowships is open to all members of the Society, and the objective of the fellowships is to facilitate the use of the Thoreau Society Collections for the widest range of artistic, educational, scholarly, and research possibilities.

Bosco then went on to introduce this year's Thoreau Society Fellowship recipients, stating on behalf of the Fellowships Committee the belief that the recipients and their work exemplified a fair range of interests represented by members of the Society:

Susan Kayorie, a doctoral candidate writing a dissertation entitled *Henry David Thoreau in His Own Time: A Biographical Chronicle of His Life, Drawn from Recollections, Memoirs, Interviews and Reviews by Friends and Associates*;

Kerry John Gibbs, who is writing a re-creation of Thoreau's journey on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers for a popular reading audience, a work titled *Pine Forests and Pure Thought: A Week with Thoreau on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers*; and

Bradley P. Dean, who upon his retirement and departure from the staff of the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods at the end of July 2002, will devote full time to his preparation of two editions (already underway): *The Indian Books of Henry D. Thoreau* and *The Commonplace Books of Henry D. Thoreau*.

Bosco concluded, saying that Ms. Kayorie's and Mr. Gibbs's



The Thoreau Society's annual excursion to Mount Katahdin took place from 15 to 18 August this year. On 17 August the group above ascended to the summit, in the process crossing the famous and (to some) harrowing Knife's Edge. From left to right, the climbers are: Norm Staniszewski, White Lake, Michigan; Mike and Orrie Creighton (father and son), Charlton, Massachusetts; Pat Brinkman, Lincoln, Massachusetts; Ed Lucas, Easton, Pennsylvania; and Don Ritz, Hull, Massachusetts.

awards were effective 1 July 2002, while Dr. Dean's award will not be effective until 1 August 2002.

After announcing the recipients of this year's Thoreau Society Fellowships, Bosco announced that the Board of Directors had approved the following recommendations of the Awards Committee:

First, the Thoreau Society's Distinguished Achievement Award has been given to the Staff of the Walden Pond State Reservation for their extraordinary devotion over a sustained period of time to preserving Walden Pond and its environs. Denise Morrissey, the Supervisor of the Walden Pond State Reservation, accepted the award on behalf of her colleagues.

Second, the Thoreau Society's Walter Harding Distinguished Service Award has been given to Bradley P. Dean. Joel Myerson, Chair of the Awards Committee, made the presentation to Dr. Dean.

# Thoreau Society Committees, 2002–2003

## I. Regular Committees:

**Annual Gathering Committee** (for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, [c]): **D. Ganoe, Chair** ([dbganoe@dmv.com](mailto:dbganoe@dmv.com)); W. Mott (or his designee, representing the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society during the “Emerson in 2003” Bicentennial); B. Wojtusik; J. Wollenweber.

**Committee on Nominations and Elections** (for charge and membership, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article IV): **J. Myerson, Chair** ([myersonj@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:myersonj@gwm.sc.edu)); J. Mack; K. van Anglen\*; Leslie Perrin Wilson\*; Elizabeth Hall Witherell\* (asterisk indicates election by the Society’s membership-at-large).

**Executive Committee** (for charge and membership, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article V, section 5.6): R. Galvin; **R. Hoag, Chair** ([hoagr@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:hoagr@mail.ecu.edu)); S. Petrulionis.

**Finance Committee** (for expanded charge, see below; since 2001–2002, the Finance Committee has also assumed the responsibilities of the regular Membership and Development Committee [for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, (c)]): **R. Galvin, Chair** ([rgalvin@davismalm.com](mailto:rgalvin@davismalm.com)); J. Mack; J. Wheeler.

**Friends of Walden Pond Committee** (for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, [c]): **R. Bosco, Chair** ([Bosco@albany.edu](mailto:Bosco@albany.edu)); S. Carlisle; J. Myerson; member from the local community to be named; K. Kashian (ex officio); D. Morrissey (ex officio).

**Publications Committee** (for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, [c]): B. Dean (Editor, *Thoreau Society Bulletin*); **W. Mott, Chair** ([Wmott@wpi.edu](mailto:Wmott@wpi.edu)); R. Schneider (Editor, *The Concord Saunterer*).

**Standing Committee** (for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, [c]; additionally, for 2001–2002, the Standing Committee will assume the responsibilities of the Collections Committee [for charge, see *By-Laws of the Thoreau Society*, article X, section 10.1, (c)]): R. Bosco; H. Deese; **J. Myerson, Chair** ([myersonj@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:myersonj@gwm.sc.edu)); B. Powell (advisor to the Committee); E. Witherell (advisor to the Committee).

## II. Ad Hoc Committees (with charges as specified below):

**Awards Committee** (for charge, see below): **S. Carlisle, Chair** ([scarlisl@gis.net](mailto:scarlisl@gis.net)); D. Ganoe; W. Mott; J. Myerson (advisor to the Committee).

**By-Laws Committee** (for charge, see below): R. Hoag; **R. Hudspeth, Chair** ([Robert\\_Hudspeth@Redlands.edu](mailto:Robert_Hudspeth@Redlands.edu)); R. Schneider; L. Walls; J. Wheeler.

**Education and Research Committee** (for charge, see below): K. Anderson (ex officio); R. Bosco (ex officio); J. Cramer; H. Deese; **J. Gordon and L. Walls, Co-Chairs** ([Jayne.Gordon@Walden.org](mailto:Jayne.Gordon@Walden.org); [WallsL@Lafayette.edu](mailto:WallsL@Lafayette.edu)); L. P. Wilson. *Note:* Members of this Committee designated “ex officio” shall *not* be voting members of the Committee.

**Thoreau Birthplace Advisory Committee** (for charge, see below): **R. Hoag, Chair** ([hoagr@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:hoagr@mail.ecu.edu)); J. Mack; J. Wheeler.

**Thoreau Society Fellowships Review and Awards Committee**

(for charge, see below): **R. Bosco and H. Deese, Co-Chairs**; J. Cramer; J. Myerson; B. Wojtusik.

**Walden in 2004: A Sesquicentennial Celebration—Steering Committee** (for charge, see below): **R. Bosco and J. Myerson, Co-Chairs** ([Bosco@albany.edu](mailto:Bosco@albany.edu); [myersonj@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:myersonj@gwm.sc.edu)); D. Ganoe (Chair, Annual Gathering Committee); J. Gordon; W. Mott; R. Schneider (Editor, *The Concord Saunterer*).

## III. Charges to Committees

**Awards Committee:** Seeks nominations from the Society’s membership and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the awarding of the Thoreau Society’s Distinguished Achievement Award, the Thoreau Society’s Walter Harding Distinguished Service Award, and the Thoreau Society Medal.

**By-Laws Committee:** Oversees all aspects of the Society’s *By-Laws*.

**Education and Research Committee:** For 2002–2003, this Committee has been created and its members jointly appointed by the President of the Thoreau Society and the Executive Director of the Walden Woods Project; its membership has been approved by the Thoreau Society Board of Directors.

The overall charge to this Committee is (1) to review and discuss the position paper submitted to the Board by the 2000–2001 Thoreau Society Research Committee which preliminarily addressed means by which the Society could achieve its educational and research missions to the mutual advantage of both; (2) out of that review and discussion, to prepare a statement of how the educational and research missions of **both** the Thoreau Society **and** the Walden Woods Project can be developed in such a way as to reinforce each other and to realize the potential for education and research at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods, which is a collaboration of the Walden Woods Project and the Thoreau Society; (3) to specify **and** illustrate to the greatest extent possible the respective obligations of the Thoreau Society and the Walden Woods Project in realizing the potential for education and research at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods, and to propose committee and other structures that will facilitate education and research opportunities at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods; (4) to present a draft interim report to the President of the Thoreau Society and the Executive Director of the Walden Woods Project **no later than December 15, 2002**, which, in turn, both the President of the Thoreau Society and the Executive Director of the Walden Woods Project will discuss with their respective Boards in meetings during January 2003; and (5) acknowledging comments and recommendations emerging from discussions that occur in January 2003, to present a final report to the President of the Thoreau Society and the Executive Director of the Walden Woods Project for discussion by their respective Boards and implementation **no later than July 2003**.

*Note:* Members of this Committee designated “ex officio” shall *not* be voting members of the Committee. Additionally, the charge to the Committee shall *not* be construed to limit the range of topics or the nature thereof that the Committee may entertain during its deliberations. In effect, under the terms of its charge, the Committee has the authority to discuss and make recommendations about matters relating to education and research at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods that the Committee deems appropriate for discussion and appropriate as subjects on which to make specific recommendations. Finally, the time frame for the



work of this Committee as indicated is a *suggested maximum time frame* only; ideally, the work of the Committee will be brought to closure as expeditiously as possible so that its recommendations can be implemented **prior** to July 2003.

**Finance Committee:** Until such time as the charge that follows is explicitly altered or set aside by the Board of Directors, the charge to this Committee is: (1) to meet with the Society's Business Manager six times per year, exclusive of Board meetings; (2) to maintain a running review of all aspects of the finances of the Society and the finances of activities of the Society such as the Friends of Walden Pond (the latter in consultation with the Friends of Walden Pond Committee); minimally, this running review shall take into account the Society's cash reserves, income and expenses relating to the Shop, all operational expenses in addition to those associated with the Shop (including personnel expenses), investments, and any other matters relating to the Society's finances that the Committee deems appropriate for review; and (3) to regularly advise the President (and, through the President, the Board of Directors) of the financial condition of the Society, to recommend to them any and all reasonable means to achieve economies in the operational expenses of the Society at all levels, and to recommend measures to improve returns on the Society's investments (e.g., the Bodfish Bequest, the Smith Fund, and the like).

**Thoreau Birthplace Advisory Committee:** This Committee will advise the Board on roles the Society may wish to take on as the future of the Thoreau birthplace unfolds.

**Thoreau Society Fellowships Review and Awards Committee:** This Committee will advertise the Fellowships program, review all applications, and make recommendations to the Board on recipients of the awards.

**Walden in 2004: A Sesquicentennial Celebration—Steering Committee:** This Committee will advise the Board of Directors on activities sponsored and fully or partially funded by the Society with respect to this celebration. The only events sponsored and funded fully or partially by the Society in 2004 will be (1) an expanded Annual Gathering, (2) a series of public events developed in connection with the Society's position as the Friends of Walden Pond, and (3) possibly an expanded "special" issue of *The Concord Saunterer* devoted to *Walden* the book and Walden the place. With the concurrence of the Board, the Committee will represent the Society's interests in discussions with local, national, and international organizers of *other* events marking the 150th year since the publication of *Walden*.

## Notes & Queries

☞ Antonio Casado da Rocha tells us that in Margaret Atwood's recent collection of essays on the writing life, *Negotiating with the Dead* (Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge UP, 2002), she recollects Thoreau's influence on her father. After educating himself through correspondence courses, he "taught primary school, saved the money from that, got a scholarship, worked in lumber camps, lived in tents during the summers, cooked his own food, cleaned out rabbit hutches at a low wage, managed at the same time to send enough money 'home' to put his three sisters through high school, and ended up with a doctorate in Forest Entomology. As you might deduce, he believed in self-sufficiency, and Henry David Thoreau was one of the writers he admired" (p. 6).

☞ Jayne Gordon recently climbed Mount Thumb in Hancock, New Hampshire, and found at the summit the brass memorial plaque seen in the photo here with a quotation (alas! a misquotation, actually) from the "Economy" chapter of *Walden*. We learn from the Web that Anderson, who lived in Hubbardston, Massachusetts, died of a heart attack while climbing the mountain. Each spring his friends conduct a memorial hike, beginning their day (as Anderson did the day of his death) with breakfast at the Tin Bucket Restaurant on Main Street in nearby Jaffrey before driving to the Harris Center for Conservation Education in Hancock, from which they ascend the mountain.



☞ French Thoreauvian François Specq informs us that Roger Asselineau has died. Specq tells us that although Asselineau was primarily a Whitman scholar, he was one of the very few French Americanists to have a name in the United States.

☞ Austin Meredith informs us that the May/June 2002 issue of the *American Poetry Review* (Volume 31, Number 3) features poet Jane Hirshfield on the cover and contains her lengthy essay "Thoreau's Hound: On Hiddenness," from which Meredith extracts the following two sentences: "A fidelity to the ungraspable lies at the very root of being; the steepest pitches of the heart and mind make their own shade. Within that cool and dimness, emotions and thought small as new mosses and lichens begin the slow, green colonizations of incipient life."

☞ On 5 August 2002 National Public Radio's "Morning Edition" program aired a seven-minute segment titled "Remembering Thoreau," which was produced by WGBH of Boston as part of a series called "Present at the Creation." Reporter Jill Kaufman focused on *Walden*; Thoreauvians Bob Richardson, Bob Gross, and Tom Blanding contributed insights. An audio file of the broadcast is archived at [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org), which currently features a Thoreau web page with links to more information ([www.npr.org/programs/morning/features/patc/walden/index.html](http://www.npr.org/programs/morning/features/patc/walden/index.html)).

☞ Jim Dawson sends us the following sixteen-line (as originally printed) biographical sketch of Thoreau, which appears under the section "Concord" on p. 28 of the "revised and augmented" edition of *New England: A Handbook for Travellers*, ed. M. F. Sweetzer (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., 1874): "But it is during the present century that the lives of three of the foremost literary men of America have made Concord famous. Henry D. Thoreau (H[arvard]. U. 1837), an eccentric yet profound scholar and naturalist, in 1845, built himself a hut on the shores of the sequestered Walden Pond (1 M[ile]. S. E. of the village), where he led a recluse [*sic*] life, raising a few vegetables, and occasionally surveying or carpentering to get money for his slight expenses. He never voted, never entered a church, never paid a tax. Profoundly skilled in classic and Oriental literature, and an ardent naturalist, his chief delight was to make long pedestrian excursions to the forests and lakes and ocean-shores of New England. Of himself he said, 'I am as unfit for any practical purpose as gossamer is for ship timber.' Thoreau dedicated his genius, with such entire love, to the fields, hills, and waters of his

native town, that he made them known and interesting to all. He grew to be revered and admired by his townsmen, who had at first known him only as an oddity.'—Emerson. He died in 1860 [*sic*], leaving his great work unfinished, and his only remains are several quaint and charming books of travel." Dawson says that the section continues with a thirteen-line biographical sketch of Emerson and a three-line sketch of Hawthorne, so Thoreau was given top billing, which was highly unusual but may be explained by the fact that Osgood was at this time Thoreau's publisher. The book's "Cape Cod" section includes several quotations from Thoreau's *Cape Cod*, but the "Maine" section includes no quotations from *The Maine Woods*.

☞ About six weeks after being asked if he could document when, after Thoreau's time, deer returned to the Concord area, Steve Ells located the following record of a January 1894 discussion on page 4 of the Nuttall Ornithological Club's "Records of Meetings, Vol. V, Jan. 1, 1894 to Dec. 19, 1898": "Mr. Brewster said that the return of deer to this part of Massachusetts, although not ornithological, ought to be made a matter of record here. Deer have appeared in considerable numbers within 25 miles of Cambridge since December 1st [1893]. They are reported from Carlisle, Westford, Acton, North Lexington and elsewhere. They were reported this autumn as far down as Portsmouth, N.H.; and a friend of his at York said there were no less than eleven deer in a piece of woods there. Mr. Brewster thinks this neighborhood is being restocked with the overflow of the Maine woods where deer are very plentiful. They came into western Massachusetts from Vermont two years ago." Ells points out that William Brewster (1851–1919) was the founder of the Nuttall Ornithological Club and, later, the first president of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. He knew the Concord area well, owning his own farm in town, which he called October Farm, and authoring various books on the region, including *Birds of the Cambridge Region* (1906), *October Farm* (1936), and *Concord River* (1937).

☞ As several Society members have pointed out, humorist Bill Bryson gives Thoreau a hard time in his best-selling *A Walk in the Woods* (New York: Broadway Books, 1998), p. 45:

The American woods have been unnerving people for 300 years. The inestimably priggish and tiresome Henry David Thoreau thought nature was splendid, splendid indeed, so long as he could stroll to town for cakes and barley wine, but when he experienced real wilderness, on a visit to Katahdin in 1846, he was unnerved to the core. This wasn't the tame world of overgrown orchards and sun-dappled paths that passed for wilderness in suburban Concord, Massachusetts, but a forbidding, oppressive, primeval country that was "grim and wild ... savage and dreary," fit only for "men nearer of kin to the rocks and animals than we." The experience left him, in the words of one biographer, "near hysterical."

But even men far tougher and more attuned to the wilderness than Thoreau were sobered by its strange and palpable menace. Daniel Boone, who not only wrestled bears but tried to date their sisters, described corners of the southern Appalachians as "so wild and horrid that it is impossible to behold them without terror." When Daniel Boone is uneasy, you know it's time to watch your step.

☞ While preparing a presentation on Edmund Hosmer, delivered at the Concord Museum on 24 February 2002, Jayne Gordon inquired what Thoreau meant when he referred to Hosmer as a "long-headed farmer" in the "Former Inhabitants" chapter of *Walden*. (Thoreau also says of Hosmer in his journal entry of 6 July 1852, "Much as he is inclined to speculation in conversation—giving up any work to it for the time—and long headed as he is—he talks of working for a neighbor for a day now & then and taking his dollar.") According to E. Cobham Brewer's *Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* (Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company, 1898), "long-headed" was a phrenological term, or as

Brewer's citation for the term states, "Clever, sharp-witted. Those who believe in the shape and bumps of the head [that is, phrenologists] think that a long head indicates shrewdness." Thoreau, of course, was no believer in phrenology, but that did not prevent him from employing the language of the popular nineteenth-century pseudo-science when it suited his purpose.

☞ In *The Blue-Grass Region of Kentucky and Other Kentucky Articles*, published by Harper and Brothers in 1892, James Lane Allen writes, "The Kentuckians are not provincial. As Thoreau said, no people can long remain provincial who have a propensity for politics, whittling, and rapid travelling." Allen refers to the sentence in the "Ktaadn" chapter of *The Maine Woods*, "No people can long continue provincial in character, who have the propensity for politics and whittling, and rapid travelling, which the Yankees have, and who are leaving the mother country behind in the variety of their notions and inventions."

☞ *Q/W/E/R/T/Y: Arts, Litteratures & Civilisations des Pays Anglophones*, a French journal of English and American studies published by the University of Pau, will devote a section of its October 2002 issue to Emerson.

☞ *Paddler* magazine's July 2002 calendar, which is published in its November/December 2001 issue, features a quotation (from the "Tuesday" chapter of *A Week*): "We rowed for some hours between glistening banks before the sun had dried the grass and leaves, or the day had established its character."

☞ An editorial article titled "Pilot Whales Aground" in the 31 July 2002 *New York Times*, p. A22, cols. 1–2, begins, "In July 1855 a Cape Cod fisherman told Henry David Thoreau that blackfish, the animals we now call pilot whales, 'ran ashore in pursuit of squid, and that they generally came on the coast about the last of July.' What interested Thoreau in blackfish wasn't their accidental strandings, but the fact that he himself had just seen them purposefully driven ashore for their oil, blubber and meat.... Thoreau expressed no sense of kinship with the whales, only a revulsion at the stench." The article then goes on to describe what turned out to be the futile efforts of volunteers recently to save a pod of fifty-five pilot whales that had stranded themselves at low tide on a beach near Dennis, Massachusetts.

☞ John House ends his brief essay "Remembering How to Walk" in the Fall 2002 issue of *Tricycle: The Buddhist Review* (no. 45, pp. 86–87) by quoting the "saunter toward the Holy Land" passage from the end of "Walking" and saying, "It's a compelling reminder of not only *how* to walk but also *why*."

☞ Dick Schneider wondered for quite a long time where in Thoreau's writings the oft-quoted statement "It is a great art to saunter" appears (most folks erroneously think it's in "Walking"), and he recently located it at the end of a journal passage on Indians in *Journal 1* (Princeton Edition), p. 304, entry of 26 April 1841. Schneider writes, "The sentence appears there out of the blue, apropos of nothing that precedes it (the Indians passage) or that follows it (a passage on seeing). This mention of sauntering in 1841 seems quite early, since the [first] 'Walking' lecture is 1851. Any idea why it's there?" Anyone caring to speculate can send a message to [Schneider@wartburg.edu](mailto:Schneider@wartburg.edu).

☞ Malcolm Ferguson (1489 Main Street., Concord, MA 01742 U.S.A.) lost a copy of Emily Dickinson's *Poems: Second Series* during the Annual Gathering and is offering a \$50 reward for its return.

☞ Jim Dawson reports that Thoreau's own copy of *Walden* is featured on p. 13 of the Spring 2002 issue of *Middlebury Magazine* with text reading, in part, "This priceless volume was part of the original collection of American Literature bequeathed to [Middlebury] College in 1923 by Julian W. Abernethy, Class of



1876." A color photo of the volume shows it to be in very good condition, says Dawson, with the exception of a long split on the outer hinge of the front cover.

☞ Vectren Corporation, an energy company in Ohio and Indiana, quotes *A Week* on the first page of its annual report to stockholders: "I have seen how the foundations of the world are laid, & I have not the least doubt that it will stand a good while." Vectren's own foundations: "a sizable and sound asset base."

## Additions to the Thoreau Bibliography

*Bradley P. Dean*

- Bartlett, Brian. "The Land Tugging at the Sea": Elizabeth Bishop's Coasts and Shores." In *Divisions of the Heart: Elizabeth Bishop and the Art of Memory and Place*. Ed. Sandra Barry, et al. Wolfville, Nova Scotia: Gaspereau Press, 2001. Pp. 91–102. Points to several parallels between Bishop and Thoreau, in particular between the "crypto-dream-house" in her beach poem "The End of March" and the charity house Thoreau describes in *Cape Cod*.
- Bowden, Denny R. "Sermons, Debates, and the Environmental Essay: Conflicting Discourses in Nineteenth-Century America and the Emergence of Print Culture in Ezra Ripley, Alexander Campbell, and Henry David Thoreau." Ph.D. dissertation, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2001. 309p.
- Buell, Lawrence. "Emersonian Anti-Mentoring: From Thoreau to Dickinson and Beyond (in Honor of James McIntosh)." *Michigan Quarterly Review*, 41, no. 3 (Summer 2002): 347–60. Primarily a reassessment of the traditional view of the Emerson-Thoreau relationship as unilinear: "Emerson the mentor, Thoreau as the initially devoted, then restless disciple who increasingly tried to extricate himself from Emerson's benign tyranny."
- Cain, William E., ed. *A Historical Guide to Henry David Thoreau*. Untitled review by Michael Berger, *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 67, no. 1 (Winter 2002): 129–131.
- Campanella, Thomas J. "Henry David Thoreau and the Yankee Elm." *Arnoldia*, 61, no. 2 (2001): 26–31. Thoreau's use of the elm as a symbol of freedom and a metaphor for human values and the destiny of the U.S., with particular emphasis on the felling of a historic elm in Concord.
- Campos, Daniel G. "Assessing the Value of Nature: A Transactional Approach." *Environmental Ethics*, 24 (Spring 2002): 57–74. Uses "Wild Apples," Emerson's *Nature*, and *Sand County Almanac* to argue that a solely economic valuation of nature is insufficient.
- Cole, Phyllis. *Mary Moody Emerson and the Origins of New England Transcendentalism: A Family History*. Untitled review by Barbara Packer, *Emerson Society Papers*, 13, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 4.
- Ellis, Christine. "Thoreau and Northboro." *Hourglass* (newsletter of the Northborough [Massachusetts] Historical Society), 110 (September 2001): 1–2.
- Fiore, Peter. *Henry David's House*. Review: Maud Lavin, "Into the Woods with a Sweetened Thoreau," *NYTimes.com*, 19 May 2002.
- Foster, David R. "Seeing the Forest, Tree by Tree." *Boston Globe*, 21 July 2002, p. D8, cols. 3–5. "Our woodlands have revived since Thoreau's time, but they're still threatened by man and insect."
- Grant, Steve. "Stretches of Thoreau's Wild Cape Cod Still Survive." *Wilmington, Del., Sunday News Journal*, 21 July 2002, p. 16, cols. 1–5.
- Johnson, D. B. *Henry Builds a Cabin*. Review: Maud Lavin, "Into the Woods with a Sweetened Thoreau," *NYTimes.com*, 19 May 2002.
- Kirklighter, Cristina. "Essaying an American Democratic Identity in Emerson and Thoreau." In *Traversing the Democratic Borders of the Essay*. Albany: State U of New York P, 2002. Pp. 39–69.
- MacLachlan, C. H. "The Spiritual Life of Henry D. Thoreau." In *The Spiritual Life: A Primer for the Inner Life*. Ed. Ray Berry. Olema, Calif.: Joshua Press, 1992. Pp. 31–53.
- Maynard, Barksdale. "'Down This Long Hill in the Rain': Rediscovering the Trails of Thoreau in Concord." *Appalachia*, 214 (N.S. vol. LIV, no. 1; June 2002): 90–101. Interesting description of walks available today in the woods south of Walden Pond (now called Adams Woods) along trails Thoreau himself used and one of which is mentioned prominently in *Walden*.
- Myerson, Joel, ed. *A Historical Guide to Ralph Waldo Emerson*. Untitled review by Michael P. Branch, *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, 29, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 219–21; untitled review by Len Gougeon, *Emerson Society Papers*, 13, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 6–8.
- Naikar, Basavaraj S. "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers: An American Travelogue." *Indian Journal of American Studies* (Hyderabad, India), 28, nos. 1 & 2 (Winter & Summer 1998): 65–70. "The journey that takes place in *A Week* ... may be classified into two kinds: one, physical and two, mental or philosophical or spiritual which go on alternating in the whole course."
- Wider, Sarah Ann. *The Critical Reception of Emerson: Unsettling All Things*. Untitled review by Phyllis Cole, *Emerson Society Papers*, 13, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 4–6.
- Porte, Joel, and Sandra Morris, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Ralph Waldo Emerson*. Untitled review by Len Gougeon, *Emerson Society Papers*, 13, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 6–8.
- Robinson, David M. "Emerson, Thoreau, Fuller, and Transcendentalism." In *American Literary Scholarship: An Annual 2000*. Ed. David J. Nordloh. Durham, N.C.: Duke UP, 2002. Pp. 3–27. The indispensable annual survey of scholarship in Thoreau (and related) studies. The Thoreau section appears on pp. 10–20.
- Sims, David. "Building to a Different Drummer." *Smithsonian*, 33, no. 1 (April 2002): 101–106. Timber-frame revivalists use joinery techniques similar to those Thoreau used to build his house at Walden Pond to build large structures as well as a replica of Thoreau's Walden house.
- Smith, Harmon. *My Friend, My Friend: The Story of Thoreau's Relationship with Emerson*. Untitled review by Richard J. Schneider, *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, 29, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 221–24.
- Petrulionis, Sandra Harbert. "'Swelling that Great Tide of Humanity': The Concord, Massachusetts, Female Anti-Slavery Society." *New England Quarterly*, 74 (September 2001): 385–418. Excellent essay on an important organization in Concord during Thoreau's time.
- Thoreau, Henry D. "Backwoods of Maine." *Christian Herald* (Newburyport, Mass.), 11 January 1849, p. 4, cols. 1–2. Reprints (with one silent omission) the concluding section of the fifth installment of "Ktaadn, or the Maine Woods," which appeared in the *Union Magazine*.
- . *Cape Cod*. Review: *Massachusetts Ploughman*

(Boston.), 8 April 1865, p. 2, col. 2.

———. *Excursions*. Review: *Norfolk County Journal* (Roxbury, Mass.), 24 October 1863, p. 2, col. 6.

———. *Journal, Volume 8: 1854*. Ed. Sandra Harbert Petrulionis. Princeton: Princeton UP, 2002. 507p. hardcover (ISBN 0-691-06541-1), \$65. Petrulionis edited this, the fourteenth volume in the ongoing Princeton Edition of the Writings of Henry D. Thoreau, from the 467-page manuscript notebook that Thoreau kept from 13 February to 3 September 1854, during which period he delivered "Slavery in Massachusetts" (4 July) and saw the publication of *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* (9 August). Like all previous Princeton *Journal* volumes, the "Historical Introduction" is excellent. Although the index is not quite as comprehensive as a couple of the earlier *Journal* volumes, this contains fuller annotations, many of which are extremely informative, and a table of all (rather than selected) substantive later revisions.

———. *Journal, Volume 8: 1854* (Princeton Edition). Brief notice. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 9 August 2002, p. A21.

———. *The Maine Woods*. Review: *Norfolk County Journal* (Roxbury, Mass.), 4 June 1864, p. 1, col. 7.

———. *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* (1854). Reviews: *Norfolk County Journal* (Roxbury, Mass.), 12 August 1854, p. 2, col. 6; *Daily News* (Newport, R.I.), 22 August 1854, p. 2, col. 2. We reprint both of these reviews in the lead article above.

———. *"Wild Apples" and Other Natural History Essays*. Ed. William Rossi. Athens, Ga.: U of Georgia P, 2002. 236p. hardcover (ISBN 0-8203-2412-4), \$45; paperback (ISBN 0-8203-2413-2), \$19.95. Although essentially a reprint of Sattelmeyer's 1980 edition of *Natural History Essays*, Rossi adds valuable annotations, a five-page list of "Suggestions for Further Reading," a useful index, and most particularly an introduction that incorporates the most recent scholarship and places each of the essays into broader biographical, historical, and intellectual contexts.

———. *A Yankee in Canada*. Reviews: *Norfolk County Journal* (Roxbury, Mass.), 22 September 1866, p. 2, col. 6; *Massachusetts Ploughman* (Boston.), 29 September 1866, p. 2, col. 2.



We are indebted to the following for information used in this Bulletin: Brian Bartlett, Tammy Beams, Mike Berger, Ron Bosco, Clarence Burley, Susie Carlisle, Antonio Casado da Rocha, Randall Conrad, John Costine, Jim Dawson, Debra Kang Dean, Robert P. Ellis, Steve Ells, Ron Faraday, Mike Frederick, Robert Galvin, Jayne Gordon, Chris Highland, Lewis Hyde, Karen Kashian, Brianne Keith, Barksdale Maynard, Austin Meredith, Wes Mott, Gretchen Oberfranc, Sandra Petrulionis, William Rossi, Mark Shanks, François Specq, Laura Dassow Walls, Leslie Wilson, Beth Witherell, Dale Woodiel. Please keep your editor informed of items not yet added and new items as they appear.

## Announcements

### Ralph Waldo Emerson Memorial Association Fellowship for the Study of Emerson and His Circle

Each year, the Houghton Library of Harvard University offers twelve short-term fellowships, including one focused specifically on Emerson, to assist scholars who must travel to work within the

Library's collections. Each fellow is expected to be in residence at Harvard for at least one month during the fellowship year, July through June; the stipend for each fellowship is \$2500.

The Houghton Library is the principal rare book and manuscript library of Harvard College. The Library's holdings are particularly strong in the following areas: European, English, American, and South-American literature—including the country's pre-eminent collection of American literary manuscripts; philosophy; religion; history of science; music; printing and graphic arts; dance; and theatre. Fellows will also have access to collections in Widener Library, as well as throughout the world's largest university library.

Applicants should write directly to Fellowship Selection Committee, Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, and provide (1) a statement of not more than three pages describing the research project and the importance of the Library's collections to the applicant's work; (2) a current curriculum vitae; and (3) two letters of recommendation.

Applications and supporting materials are due 17 January 2003. A list of past Fellows and topics can be found at [www-hcl.harvard.edu/houghton/programs/fellowships.html](http://www-hcl.harvard.edu/houghton/programs/fellowships.html).

For more information, contact Leslie A. Morris, Curator of Manuscripts, Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138; e-mail: [Leslie\\_Morris@harvard.edu](mailto:Leslie_Morris@harvard.edu); tel: (617) 495-2449; fax: (617) 495-1376; <http://hcl.harvard.edu/houghton/departments/msdept/>.

### "Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty": The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason

Throughout the fall of 2002, the Concord Free Public Library, Concord Art Association, Minute Man National Historical Park, and Fruitlands Museums will celebrate the life and work of American landscape photographer Herbert Wendell Gleason through exhibitions and a lecture series. The Concord Free Public Library will draw upon and make its extensive holdings of Gleason negatives available to the other venues for display.

Over a forty year period (1899–1937), Herbert Wendell Gleason photographed not only the Concord landscape of Henry David Thoreau and other places throughout New England, but also New York State, Minnesota, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, California, Washington State, Alaska, and Canada. Active in the national park movement, he made expeditions to photograph the country's established national parks and areas under consideration as parklands. He photographed the horticultural experiments of his friend Luther Burbank. His images were used to illustrate the 1906 Manuscript and Walden Editions of Thoreau's works, and also the writings of John Muir. Gleason was an environmentalist as much as a photographer.

The Concord Free Public Library will feature Gleason's Concord images. The Concord Art Association will explore the photographer's artistry through an overview of his work. The Minute Man National Historical Park will highlight his national park photographs, and Fruitlands Museums his Massachusetts landscape images.

The lecture series will begin on 6 October with a presentation by Gleason biographer and Thoreau Society member Dale Schwie. See "Calendar of Events" below for more on each of the events in the series. Also, note that an on-line version of the 4 October–31 December 2002 display in the Concord Free Public Library Art Gallery will become permanently accessible beginning 4 October.



on the Concord Free Public Library web site ([www.concordnet.org/library](http://www.concordnet.org/library), click "Special Collections," and then click "Gleason Exhibit"). And finally, for the duration of the series note cards and postcards will be available for purchase at the several venues, in the Thoreau Society Shop at Walden, and at the Concord Museum.

### **Petrulionis Named Thoreau Society's Executive Secretary**

At its meeting just prior to the Annual Gathering, the Thoreau Society Board of Directors officially created the position of Executive Secretary and appointed Board member and Penn State (Altoona) English professor Sandra Petrulionis to fill that new position. Petrulionis and a graduate-student intern will handle all membership-related functions out of their Penn State Altoona office. Henceforth, Society members should address all membership-related communications to Thoreau Society, Penn State Altoona, 129 Community Arts Center, Altoona, PA, 16601, U.S.A.; voice-mail: (781) 259-4756; e-mail: [TSmembership@walden.org](mailto:TSmembership@walden.org).

I know of no more encouraging  
fact than the unquestionable ability  
of man to elevate his life by a  
conscious endeavor.

"Where I Lived, and What I Lived For," *Walden*

## **Calendar of Events**

### **SEPTEMBER 1–OCTOBER 31, 2002**

**EXHIBIT: "LENS & LANDSCAPE: THE NATURE OF NEW ENGLAND IN HERBERT W. GLEASON'S PHOTOGRAPHY"**

The first of four multi-venue collaborative exhibitions in the series "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason." Fruitlands Museums, Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, Massachusetts. Price of admission during museum hours. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

### **SEPTEMBER 20–DECEMBER 31, 2002**

**EXHIBIT: *THE ILLUMINATED WALDEN***

An exhibit of Walden photographs by acclaimed photographer John Wawrzonek, Tsongas Gallery (adjoining the Thoreau Society Shop at Walden Pond), 926 Walden Street, Concord, Massachusetts, featuring many of the photos used in *The Illuminated Walden*, forthcoming from Sterling Publications. Free and open to the public. Call the Shop for more information, (978) 287-5477.

### **SEPTEMBER 28, 2002**

2 p.m.

**READING AND BOOK-SIGNING BY ALAN D. HODDER**

Professor Alan D. Hodder, author of *Thoreau's Ecstatic Witness*, will read excerpts from his book and be available to sign copies at the Thoreau Society Shop at Walden Pond, 915 Walden St., Concord, Massachusetts. For more information, call the Shop at (978) 287-5477.

### **OCTOBER 1–30, 2002**

**EXHIBIT: "THE LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY OF HERBERT WENDELL GLEASON"**

The second of four multi-venue collaborative exhibitions in the series "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason." This exhibition, like the others in the series, draws upon the impressive Gleason holdings of the Concord Free Public Library. This particular exhibition will explore Gleason's artistry through an overview of his work. Concord Art Association, 37 Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public during gallery hours. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

### **OCTOBER 2, 16, 30, and NOVEMBER 13, 2002** 7–9 p.m.

**DISCUSSION SERIES: "THE POLITICS AND ETHICS OF HENRY THOREAU"**

A four-part discussion series on "Civil Disobedience," "Slavery in Massachusetts," "A Plea for Captain John Brown," "Walking," and "Life without Principle" held at the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods and facilitated by Jayne Gordon, the Institute's Education Program Director. Booklet of essays, with a syllabus and framing questions for each evening, will be mailed to participants in advance. Price of \$40 for Thoreau Society members (otherwise \$50) includes copy of *Civil Disobedience and Other Essays* (Dover). Required registration through Concord-Carlisle Adult and Community Education; call (978) 318-1540 or e-mail [AdultEd@colonial.net](mailto:AdultEd@colonial.net). For more information, contact Jayne Gordon at (781) 259-4712 or [Jayne.Gordon@walden.org](mailto:Jayne.Gordon@walden.org).

### **OCTOBER 4–DECEMBER 31, 2002**

**EXHIBIT: "GLEASON'S CONCORD"**

The third of four multi-venue collaborative exhibitions in the series "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason," each exhibition of which draws upon the impressive Gleason holdings of the Concord Free Public Library. This exhibition will be on display in the Concord Free Public Library Art Gallery, 129 Main Street, Concord, Massachusetts, during regular library hours. Free and open to the public. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

### **OCTOBER 5, 2002**

4–6 p.m.

**RECEPTION FOR EXHIBIT: "THE LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY OF HERBERT WENDELL GLEASON"**

Reception for the exhibit described under "OCTOBER 1–30, 2002" above. Concord Art Association, 37 Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

### **OCTOBER 6, 2002**

3 p.m.

**LECTURE BY DALE SCHWIE**

Gleason biographer Dale Schwie will deliver this, the first lecture of the series "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason" at the Concord Free Public Library Children's Room, 129 Main Street, Concord, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

### **OCTOBER 7–NOVEMBER 30, 2002**

**EXHIBIT: "'FOR THE BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF THE PEOPLE':**

The Annual Gathering Committee has approved the following theme for the 2003 Annual Gathering, which will coincide with bicentennial celebrations of Emerson's birth:

## "Thoreau and the Emersonian Influence"

### GLEASON IMAGES OF AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS

The last of the four multi-venue collaborative exhibitions in the series, "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason." Minute Man National Historical Park, North Bridge Visitor Center, 174 Liberty Street, Concord, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public during Visitor Center hours (9 a.m.–5 p.m. until 27 October; closes 4 p.m. beginning 28 October).

**OCTOBER 17, 2002**

**7 p.m.**

#### READING AND DISCUSSION BY JOHN SUITER

Boston-based writer and photographer John Suiter will read from, discuss, and sign copies of his new book *Poets on the Peaks: Gary Snyder, Philip Whalen & Jack Kerouac in the North Cascades*. Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods, 44 Baker Farm, Lincoln, Massachusetts. For reservations (required), contact Jeff.Cramer@walden.org.

**OCTOBER 20, 2002**

**4 p.m.**

#### LECTURE BY FRANK GOHLKE

Landscape photographer Frank Gohlke will deliver the second lecture of the series, "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason," at the Concord Art Association, 37 Lexington Road, Concord, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

**OCTOBER 27, 2002**

**3–5 p.m.**

#### ILLUMINATED WALDEN: BOOK SIGNING, GALLERY TALK, AND EXHIBITION

As part of the 10th Annual Concord Festival of Authors, Ron Bosco, President of the Thoreau Society, and acclaimed photographer John Wawrzonek will speak on their book project and sign copies of their book for customers at the Thoreau Society Shop at Walden Pond; and an exhibit of Wawrzonek's photographs will be on display in the adjoining Tsongas Gallery, 926 Walden Street, Concord, Massachusetts. Call the Shop for more information, (978) 287-5477.

**OCTOBER 27, 2002**

**3 p.m.**

#### LECTURE BY BRIAN DONAHUE

Environmental historian Brian Donahue will deliver the third and final lecture of the series "'Yours, for the Conservation of Natural Beauty': The Landscape Photography of Herbert Wendell Gleason" at the Minute Man National Park Visitor Center, Route 2A/Battle Road (Exit 30B off I-95), Lexington, Massachusetts. Free and open to the public. Call the Concord Free Public Library at (978) 318-3300 for more information.

**DECEMBER 29, 2002**

**12 noon–1:15 p.m.**

#### MLA SESSION (1ST OF 2): "TRANSCENDENTAL COSMOPOLITANISM"

Board member Laura Dassow Walls will preside over the session, which will feature three speakers: Wai Chee Dimock, "Planetary Time in Concord"; Lawrence I. Buell, "A European Emerson"; and Noelle A. Baker, "'Break Every Bond': Transcendental Cosmopolitanism in Providence, Rhode Island." (Event will take place in New York City. Further details to be provided in next Bulletin.)

**DECEMBER 30, 2002**

**1:45–3 p.m.**

#### MLA SESSION (2ND OF 2): "EMERSON, THOREAU, AND THE POLITICAL LIFE"

Board member Sandra Petrulionis will preside over the session, which will feature at least two speakers (although a third may be invited sometime before the session): Jennifer A. Gurley, "Thoreau, Emerson, and Socrates," and Eric Glenn Wilson, "Emerson, Thoreau, and Public Things." (Event will take place in New York City. Further details to be provided in next Bulletin.)

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Established in 1941, the Thoreau Society, Inc., is an international nonprofit organization with a mission to honor Henry David Thoreau by stimulating interest in and fostering education about his life, works, and philosophy and his place in his world and ours; by coordinating research on his life and writings; by acting as a repository for Thoreauviana and material relevant to Henry David Thoreau; and by advocating for the preservation of Thoreau Country. Membership in the Society includes subscriptions to its two publications, the *Thoreau Society Bulletin* (published quarterly) and *The Concord Saunterer* (published annually). Society members receive a ten-percent discount on all merchandise purchased from the Thoreau Society Shop at Walden Pond and advance notice about Society programs, including the Annual Gathering.

Address communications as follows:

**Membership:** Thoreau Society, Penn State Altoona, 129 Community Arts Center, Altoona, PA, 16601, U.S.A.; voice-mail: (781) 259-4756; e-mail: TSmembership@walden.org.

**Merchandise:** (including books and mail-order items): Thoreau Society Shop at Walden Pond, 915 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742-4511, U.S.A.; tel: (978) 287-5477; fax: (978) 287-5620; e-mail: Shop@walden.org.

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